GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5692
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2003
SURVEY ON PATENT REGIME
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the survey conducted by market research firm AC Nielsen ORG-Marg, only 17% of doctors interviewed were aware of the current patent regime in India;

(b) if so, whether the study was intended to determine the level of knowledge as well as opinions of the medical community regarding pharmaceutical patents;

(c) if so, the main features of the survey;

(d) whether the Government have examined the survey report; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to impart knowledge to the doctors on the patent regime?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (e) The Government does not appear to be in receipt of the results of the survey conducted by the Market Research Firm AC Nielsen ORG-Marg. However, further information is being collected on the matter.

All the concerned Departments of the Government of India are very well aware of the implications of the Patent Law and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, through the Indian Council of Medical Research, have been conducting IPR/WTO awareness workshops for ICMR Scientists as also doctors in various medical colleges and other institutions in India to improve the knowledge base of Indian doctors about the new patent regime.